

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01882 221137Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----221145Z 037614 /23-12
O 221119Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2312

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 1882

EXDIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM MURPHY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SY, US
SUBJECT: KHADDAM VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: DAMASCUS 1852

1. IN MARCH 22 MEETING, KHADDAM ASKED ME IF I HAD ANY
REPLY ON POSSIBLE RESCHEDULING OF HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON
(REFTEL). I SAID NONE HAD ARRIVED BUT WOULD ADVISE ASAP.

2. HE THEN NOTED THAT HE CONSIDERED HIS MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT CARTER TO BE THE PRINCIPAL POINT OF HIS VISIT,
SINCE HE FELT THAT, BARRING UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS, HE
WOULD BRING NO NEW THOUGHTS TO SHARE WITH SECRETARY BEYOND
WHAT THEY HAD DISCUSSED TOGETHER IN DAMASCUS. I OBSERVED
THAN IN MEANTIME SADAT WOULD HAVE VISITED WASHINGTON AND
THAT THIS MAY GENERATE FURTHER POINTS FOR DISCUSSION.
I ALSO REFER KHADDAM OF SECRETARY'S INTEREST IN FURTHER
DISCUSSIONS
WITH ARAB GOVERNMENTS ON PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN
NEGOTIATING PROCESS. (STATE 48334, PARA 2)

3. KHADDAM ADVISES HIS PARTY WILL CONSIST OF HIMSELF,
SECRET

SECRET

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HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, ABDUL SALAM AQIL, AND INTERPRETER,
SAMIH ABU FARES.

4. COMMENT:

THIS CONFIRMS THE HUNCH WHICH PROMPTED ME TO SAY IN
PARA 5 REFTE HOW KHADDAM "SHOULD NOT LEAVE WITH IMPRESSION

OF HAVING BEEN RUSHED IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT." I HOPE
THAT IT WILL PROVE POSSIBLE TO BLOCK SUFFICIENT TIME AT THE
WHITE HOUSE.

5. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, ABU FARES ADVISED
CONFIDENTIALLY THAT KHADDAM'S REQUEST TO SLIP HIS ARRIVAL
IN WASHINGTON BY ONE DAY WAS BASED ON PROBABLE DATES FOR SYRO-SOVIET
SUMMIT MEETING WHICH APPARENTLY WILL FALL IN MID-APRIL.
KHADDAM ALSO PLANS SPEND ON DAY IN MEETINGS IN PARIS BEFORE
WASHINGTON. MY RECOMMENDATION THAT WE ASK HIM TO STICK TO ORIGINAL
ARRIVAL DATE MAY PROVE UNREALISTIC.
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 22-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Reason:
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Litigation Codes:
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